REMARKS

Claims 6 and 8 through 19 are in the application and are presented for consideration. By this amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 1 – 5 and 7. Independent claim 6 and dependent claim 13 and independent claim 14 have been amended. Claims 14 through 19 have been allowed.

Claims 1, 3, 5 – 6, 8, and 11 – 13 have been rejected as anticipated by Morris et al. The rejection is based on the position that Morris et al. discloses each of the features as claimed.

An aspect of Applicant's invention is the ability to provide modular units to connect into a carrier line. Specifically, a line with carrier liquid flowing to the patient is established. As needed, modules are connected to the carrier line for feeding in medical active ingredients. The invention provides that each module has a base part with coupling means (for physical and communication coupling). Each module also has a medical active ingredient specific cartridge with a supply line interface. The base part also has structure for receiving (connecting to) the ingredient specific cartridge with this structure also positioning the fluid interface relative to the supply line (see claim 6).

The combination provides significant advantages. The base part allows a simple and precise connection of the ingredient specific cartridge (the supply line interface) with the supply line. The base part allows an intelligent/controlled feed of the specific medical active ingredient based on the connection with the cartridge. The base part allows additional specific medical active ingredient cartridges to be connected. This is done via a simple series connection with additional modules (each with base unit and ingredient specific cartridge). This all allows for

simply and easily establishing the feed of medical active ingredients. Changing the medical active ingredients is very straightforward. The combination of features makes it easy to replenish the medical active ingredients by a simple disconnection of one cartridge and the connection of another. The combination of features is not taught and not suggested by the prior art as a whole, including Morris et al.

Morris et al. discloses a syringe plunger driver system which captures a range of various different sizes of syringe. The driver system includes specialized receiving features (such as arms 56, 58, cradle 34 and barrel flange groove 42). The device disclosed by Morris et al. receives and holds a syringe and then acts on the syringe via pump 30 for feeding fluid from the syringe to a fluid administration set tubing 74 to the patient. The rejection considers this syringe 36 to be the claimed cartridge. The syringe pump 30 is considered the base part as claimed. However, the combined features of Morris et al. do not include a base part that interacts with the tubing 74. The connection of the syringe 32 to the line 74 is completely isolated from the actions and function of the pump 30. The base part 30 has syringe receiving features and as a pump it acts on the syringe. The base part 30 of Morris et al. does not include structure for receiving (connecting to) the ingredient specific cartridge with this structure and also positioning the fluid interface relative to the supply line as required by claim 6. Instead, Morris et al. provides individual lines for individual syringes. There is nothing in the Morris et al. reference in which a base part has a cartridge holding means for accommodating the cartridge and positioning the fluid interface relative to the base and relative to the supply line. This is significant as the invention allows for an easy and effective administration of an active

ingredient as well as the addition of further active ingredients and the changing of active ingredients. Morris et al. instead provides the need to individually connect lines to individual syringes. There is no discussion as to the nature of these lines (to the patient) and it appears that if multiple syringes are to be used concurrently, multiple lines are provided. This structure does not meet the structural requirements of the claims and does not provide the function of allowing a medical professional to establish a quick connection to an existing solution line and to quickly disconnect from an existing solution line.

The base structure or pump 30 is the actual driving structure. The Morris et al. reference refers to this as the pump 30. The structure 30 acts as the drive for actuating the syringe 32. Further, Morris et al. does not suggest providing the syringe 32 with a pump as claimed. Although the plunger of the syringe forces fluid to move out of the syringe and into the tubing 74, the syringe 32 itself does not include anything to drive this. As such, it is not a pump and it is certainly not a micropump. However, an aspect of Applicant's invention is the provision of the communication interface in the base with the medical ingredient feed being in the cartridge and fed by a delivery means of the cartridge. For example, as noted in claim 6, the invention includes a delivery device delivering the medical active ingredient from the cartridge to the fluid interface. Morris et al. does not include any similar structure. If the syringe is the cartridge, the syringe does not include delivery means for delivering medical active ingredient from the cartridge to the fluid interface. Instead, this requires a pump which is provided by the base structure (provided by the pump 30).

Applicant's invention provides a combination of features with advantages which are not taught by the prior art as a whole. The invention includes a modular arrangement which is not suggested by the modular arrangements of the prior art. The novel combination is not suggested by the teachings of the prior art. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner favorably consider the claims as now presented

Favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

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